THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI ANIL SHASTRI) : (a) According to the information furnished by Stock Exchange, Bombay 5,968 companies are listed with the Stock Exchanges in India as on 31st March, 1990.

(b) and (c) The information is being collected and will be laid on the table of the House.

.Challenges faced by the Agrabatti Industry in overseas markets

3547. SHRI MURLIDHAR CHANDRAKANT BHANDARE : SHRI MAHENDRA PRASAD :

Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state :

(a) whether it is a fact that the Agar-batti industry of India, the 'Fragrant ambassador overseas' is facing grave challenges and competition in overseas markets j from Japan and China; and

(b) if so, what steps are being taken to help the industry to have its due posi •tion in the overseas markets ?

THE MINISTER OF COMMERCE AND TOURISM (SHRI ARUN KUMAR NEHRU) : (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) To promote exports of agarbatti, cash compensatory support @10% and import replenishment @ 15% have been granted. Other incentives available for exporting units in general such as duty free import of raw materials under Duty Exemption Entitlement Scheme, Duty drawback, exemption under section 80 HHC of Income Tax, in respect of export profits, retention of 10% of foreign exchange earnings for export promotion activities, etc. are also available to exporters of agarbatti.

स्टेट बैंक आफ इन्दौर की चांदनी चौक शाखा के एक सेवानिवृत्त प्रधान लिपिक को भविष्य निधि तथा अन्य देयराशियों का भुगतान न किया जाना

3548. श्री राम नरेश यादव : क्या वित्त मंत्री यह बताने की कृपा करेंगे कि :

(क) क्या यह सच है कि स्टेट बैंक आफ इंदौर की चांदनी चौक शाखा से 1987 में सेवानिवृत्त हुए एक प्रधान लिपिक को भविष्य निधि तथा अन्य देय राशियों का भुगतान अभी तक नहीं किया गया है;

(ख) यदि हां, तो उसके क्या कारण हैं;

(ग) प्रधान लिपिक को उक्त जमा राशियों का भुगतान कब तक कर दिए जाने की संभावना है; और

(घ) उक्त कर्मचारी को उसकी जमा धनराशियों पर 1987 से लेकर कितना ब्याज अदा किया जाएगा?

वित्त मंत्रालय में उप मंत्री (श्री अनिल शास्त्री) : (क) से (घ) सूचना एकत्र की जा रही है और यथा उपलब्ध सूचना सभा पटल पर रख दी जाएंगी ।

Implementation of the recommendation in Avadhani Committee

3549. SHRI PRAGADA KOTAIAH : Will the Minister of TEXTILES be pleased to state :

(a) What are the main recommendations of the Avadhani Committee set up some time back on financing of the hand-loom cloth producers in the private sector; and

(b) what action has been taken by the Government to implement the recommendations of the committee?

THE MINISTER OF TEXTILES WITH ADDITIONAL CHARGE OF THE MINISTRY OF FOOD PROCESSING INDUSTRIES (SHRI SHARAD YADAV) : (a) The salient recommendations of the Avadhani Committee made in 1979 *inter-alia* include :

(i) Setting up of a National Hand-loom Financing and Development Corporation:

(ii) Setting up of Central and Stale level monitoring committees to review the flow of funds in to the handloom sector: